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I. Organizational matters

1. The second regular session 2010 of the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA was held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 30 August to 2 September 2010.

2. The Executive Board approved the agenda and workplan for its second regular session 2010 (DP/2010/L.3), and approved the report of the annual session 2010 (DP/2010/33).

3. The Executive Board agreed to the following schedule of future sessions of the Executive Board in 2011:

First regular session:	31 January to 3 February 2011
Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP:	4 and 7 February 2011
Annual session:	6 to 17 June 2011
Second regular session:	6 to 9 September 2011

4. Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at the second regular session 2010 were included in document DP/2011/2 available at www.undp.org/execbrd.

UNDP segment

II. Statement by the Administrator and financial, budgetary and administrative matters

5. The UNDP Administrator opened her statement with the message that the coming months were important for promoting internationally agreed development goals, in particular those related to the forthcoming Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Summit and climate change. She provided an overview on the active role of UNDP in preparing for the upcoming MDG Summit, noting the opportunity for Member States to agree on an action-oriented plan to achieve the MDGs by 2015. In this context, she touched upon the MDG Acceleration Framework as well as the UNDP-led International Assessment, the latter of which she noted was welcomed by the Group of Eight, who positively referred to it in their Muskoka Declaration. She also presented the latest climate initiatives and their link to development, and gave the example of the recent landmark agreement between UNDP and the Government of Ecuador to establish the Yasuni Ishpingo Tambococha Tiputini (ITT) Trust Fund to protect biodiversity alongside the livelihoods, rights and cultures of the area's indigenous peoples.

6. She expressed sympathy for those affected by recent natural disasters in a number of countries. In this regard, the Administrator updated on UNDP activity in Pakistan, especially at the national and district levels, within the United Nations system and as leader of the inter-agency community restoration cluster. She stressed the need for a seamless transition from relief aid to early recovery and noted that the important work was often an under-funded component of international response. She also highlighted recovery efforts in Haiti, and her appointment by the Secretary-General to represent the United Nations on the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission. In her remarks on the upcoming 4 November launch of the 2010 Human Development Report, she expressed hope that the twentieth-anniversary Report

would generate constructive debate, including on innovation in the measurement of human development.

7. In her update o progress within UNDP, the Administrator reported back on five priority areas related to the business action plan: (a) the increased focus on results; (b) establishment of knowledge-sharing platforms; (c) speedier procurement and recruitment processes; (d) initiatives for the selection, development and retention of staff and performance dialogue; and (e) building of more strategic partnerships with increased outreach to major emerging economies. She also elaborated on UNDP as manager of the United Nations resident coordinator system, and drew attention to the upcoming release of the 2009 Synthesis of Resident Coordinator Annual Reports, which showcased efforts by United Nations country teams to help countries meet their development goals.

8. As Chair of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), the Administrator reiterated commitment to support national MDG achievement and system-wide coherence through harmonization of business practices. She underscored efforts to increase country-level operational efficiency. To this end, she noted the presentation of recommendations, based on four joint mission programme country visits, for endorsement at the upcoming and first joint UNDG High-level Committee on Management meeting. On the establishment of United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, she reiterated the role of the new entity in clarifying gender equality and women's empowerment within the United Nations system.

9. With regard to the UNDP financial status, the Administrator reiterated the urgent need for additional and predictable core resources, especially multi-year pledges, as projections for 2010 continued to suggest a decline in funding. In her review of total contributions to UNDP and its associated programmes and funds, she stressed at least a 30 per cent drop in regular resources was expected as against the 2010 target in the strategic plan. She further underscored that while UNDP strived for top performance, the organization would find it harder to meet Executive Board expectations if core resources were kept on short rations.

10. On transparency and financial accountability, she announced UNDP achievement for being among only a handful of United Nations organizations to receive an unqualified or "clean" audit opinion from the United Nations Board of Auditors for the biennium that ended on 31 December 2009. In addition, she emphasized UNDP managerial responsibility in fund administration services for United Nations multi-donor trust funds, and announced the launch on 2 September 2010 of the web-based GATEWAY portal, a new tool for providing real-time financial information on donor contributions, transfer amounts, annual expenditure and other kinds of related reporting.

11. In closing, she thanked the Executive Board for its ongoing support of UNDP. She reaffirmed UNDP commitment to continue sharpening capacity to help countries reach their development goals, engaging in a wide range of partnerships, and promoting system-wide coherence in the United Nations system.

12. The Associate Administrator introduced the annual review of the financial situation 2009 (DP/2010/35 and addendum 1). She reiterated the request by the Administrator for adequate and predictable core resources — the bedrock of UNDP programmes. She provided an update on the funding situation of core and non-core

contributions to UNDP and its associated programmes in 2009, noting trends in expenditure and exchange rate volatility, and steps taken toward implementation of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) by 2012.

13. Delegations thanked the Administrator for her excellent statement and commended the contents and the financial reports. They also overwhelmingly expressed appreciation for the leadership the Administrator had demonstrated since she came into office, especially on driving the MDG agenda forward and for the business action plan initiatives. They congratulated UNDP for its guidance in preparing for the MDG Summit, especially the International Assessment and the MDG Acceleration Framework. Desired outcomes from the Summit included renewed political will, an action-oriented workplan and an increase in overseas development assistance (ODA) and other resources. Delegations observed that taking a "business as usual" approach in some regions, such as sub-Saharan Africa, would not result in reaching the MDGs by 2015. To this end, they welcomed more information on the MDG Acceleration Framework Initiative, for which several delegations noted positive results in pilot countries. They also suggested conducting an in-depth assessment of the impact of the food, fuel and financial crises on the development agenda.

14. Delegations emphasized the threat posed by climate change to human security and potential damage to ecosystems. A number of delegations highlighted innovative partnerships with UNDP to tackle climate change in their countries, as well as at the regional level; they encouraged replication of such initiatives. Several delegations from programme countries commended UNDP for its continued focus on developing national capacity, particularly within the context of climate change, and requested more joint monitoring and evaluation for improved coordination, pooling of resources and even greater impact. One delegation urged UNDP to share its knowledge of environmental mainstreaming and to encourage other agencies to do so in the lead-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012.

15. The majority of delegations at the meeting expressed sympathy to Afghanistan, China and Pakistan, all countries affected by flooding. They also acknowledged with appreciation the ongoing rebuilding of Haiti following the 12 January 2010 earthquake. They stressed that UNDP must continue to focus on improving its performance in conflict and crisis-affected countries, in partnership with host governments and key partners like the World Bank, and to use lessons learned for better response. They also urged for more timely, coordinated and effective efforts. One delegation requested to know how UNDP would take into account recommendations from the recent review of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery. Another delegation reminded that in the midst of humanitarian relief response longer-term needs in post-crisis countries should not be forgotten.

16. Delegations expressed serious concern over the continued pattern of decline in core resources. They stated that the lack of sufficient regular resources threatened the multilateral and impartial character of UNDP, and reduced opportunities for more strategic and flexible management approaches. While recognizing external forces like the global economic crisis in the decline of core contributions, they urged UNDP to continue adjusting expenditure in line with forecasted income and to report back on allocated savings. In this regard, travel was singled out as an example area to reduce expenditure, especially given advances in communication technology and the impact on the environment. Delegations also requested more explanation of the effects of exchange rate volatility in future reports, including on

efforts taken to avoid a negative impact on financial results. In addition, they reiterated use of funding on priority programmes. A few delegations requested that the financial report be presented at the same time as the annual report for coherency.

17. Delegations urgently asked Member States to increase their contributions to core resources and stressed the need for multi-year pledges to allow UNDP to meet its responsibilities. At the same time, delegations reiterated the need for UNDP to be more innovative in its way of doing business to mobilize other types of funds, such as in kind donations. They encouraged continuing exploration of untapped opportunities in middle-income countries, from a funding perspective and with regard to creating a new kind of partnership framework that reflected the unique dynamics of such countries.

18. Delegations welcomed UNDP emphasis on system-wide coherence. They reiterated the importance of quality and quantity of funding for operational activities, and in determining a "critical mass" of core resources. In addition, the attention to the implementation of the business action plan, results-based management, South-South cooperation, Delivering as One efficiency and the development of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks was commended by delegations. Several delegations still wished for more aid coordination and coherence in country programmes.

19. The establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women was welcomed by delegations. They reiterated that gender equality remained a UNDP strategic priority — and crucial in achieving MDG 3 (gender equality and empowerment of women) and relevant to all MDGs. To this end, they requested the Administrator, in her capacity as head of the UNDG, to help the new agency identify and fulfil its comparative advantages, as well as ensure that it would be sufficiently resourced and well led.

20. The Administrator thanked delegations for their comments, in particular those from programme countries who singled out the added value of UNDP collaboration. On the recent review of the crisis prevention and recovery function, she highlighted one key outcome: to bring staff based in the Geneva Office to headquarters in New York to consolidate the organization's capacity in this area and impart skills at the regional and country levels. She also explained the effects of exchange rate volatility on core resources. Along those lines, she stressed that while non-core contributions were important, core resources allowed for much-needed flexibility in delivering strategic and effective programmes, and reaching the greatest number of countries, especially those which were economically poor but stable (and thus not able to access emergency funding mechanisms). She underscored the organization's ongoing expenditure review and emphasized that UNDP maintained the minimum reserve level as required by the Executive Board. She reaffirmed that rigorous expense control would continue. She further reassured the mission of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women as central to UNDP focus and cross-cutting programmes, and stressed that the new agency did not absolve other United Nations agencies from the gender equality agenda. In closing, she highlighted the establishment of a first-ever UNDP formal partnership with an emerging economy, and the drive to expand and deepen strategic partnerships.

21. The Executive Board adopted decision 2010/29 on the annual review of the financial situation, 2009.

III. UNDP country programmes and related matters

22. The Associate Administrator invited delegations to comment on eight draft country programmes: Burkina Faso, Chile, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Maldives, Somalia, Uruguay and Zambia. She made special note that the new country programme for Pakistan, due for approval by the Executive Board, was designed with the flexibility for humanitarian relief and early recovery response. The directors of the regional bureaux introduced their respective proposed country programmes.

23. Delegations from countries with new country programmes expressed their appreciation, highlighting how their country programmes would contribute to national development priorities and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The majority of those who spoke confirmed close coordination with UNDP in the preparation process.

24. Delegations commended the participatory processes evident in the development of the draft documents and their overall alignment with national priorities and national ownership principles. Delegations reiterated the need to ensure the right technical expertise at the country level, as well as for consistent and rigorous results-based reporting and monitoring and evaluation. They also placed emphasis on consolidating resources as much as possible, and to reduce the breadth of activities for strategic focus and greater impact. One delegation requested an in-depth analysis on issues related to middle-income country programming, and to consider creating a new type of framework of cooperation to reflect the context of middle-income countries.

25. The Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific elaborated on the proposed country programme for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea noting that all planned programme interventions would be consistent with the support of sustainable human development objectives, all projects were to be approved by the UNDP headquarters, and UNDP was open to consultations with interested Executive Board members as the programmes were being developed. As in the case with all its programmes, UNDP would provide information on all projects on the country office website.

26. Delegations expressed support for the proposed country programme for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and UNDP activities in the country. Delegations welcomed that the country programme would contribute to the achievement of the MDGs and improve the standard of living of the people. Some delegations stressed the need to support sustainable human development objectives and to focus on the vulnerable people and requested rigorous monitoring and evaluation in the implementation of the programme and it was confirmed that those comments would be taken fully into account.

27. Several delegations observed that despite a recent assessment confirming limited collaboration with other agencies, the proposed country programme document for Zambia inadequately addressed the issue of partnerships. They urged for more inter-agency coordination and joint programming, and to secure sufficient capacity and resources to help ensure high-quality interventions. Two delegations also recommended inclusion of a "risk and mitigation" section as well as an analysis of the UNDP institutional landscape. Another delegation stated that the HIV targets seemed low and to disaggregate, by gender, the monitoring and evaluation

indicators for HIV/AIDS, small-scale farmers, gender and governance activities. One delegation noted the absence of expected outcomes in the media and civil society programme, questioning as well whether it was designed in coordination with similar existing efforts in Zambia.

28. Other comments by delegations related to the need for more focus on accountability and risk management in the proposed country programme document for Somalia, where the security situation in the country limited operation inside the country. They also requested more reporting on impact, results and transparency on implementation challenges in the draft country programme document. Delegations stressed the importance of programme linkage to the peacebuilding platform in Somalia, and to explain how the United Nations integrated strategic framework impacts UNDP work in the country. They also encouraged an assessment of challenges and opportunities for development in Somalia and to be region-specific.

29. Delegations expressed sympathy to Pakistan because of the recent flooding, and supported early recovery measures as part of its new country programme. On the draft country programme document for Burkina Faso, two delegations noted the limited reference to partnerships. They also urged UNDP to distinguish its comparative advantage in the country given the breadth of proposed activities. One delegation observed in the draft country programme document for Indonesia the need to consider the comparative advantage of the organization as well, especially following the announcement by the Government that as from 2011 or 2012, it would increasingly administer and manage donor funds and the number of other international development groups in the country.

Assistance to Myanmar

30. The Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative introduced the note on assistance to Myanmar (DP/2010/36).

31. The six delegations that made statements expressed agreement with the findings of the Independent Assessment Mission. One delegation stressed that UNDP should consider concentrating resources in fewer programme and geographical areas in order to maximize results. The same delegation also called for better reporting and management information systems, and the strengthening of technical skills of staff working at the township level.

32. The Resident Representative reaffirmed UNDP commitment to meeting the needs of the people of Myanmar, and informed that UNDP would develop a strategy to reduce geographic coverage and prepare a new programme of activities for the period 2012-2015 to present to the Executive Board in 2011.

33. The Executive Board took note of the eight presented draft country programme documents. As per decision 2006/36, the revised documents would be posted on the website six weeks after the discussion at the second regular session and approved at the first regular session in 2011, on a "no-objection" basis without presentation and discussion, unless at least five or more members had informed the Secretariat in writing.

34. The Executive Board approved 11 country programmes and one regional programme on a no-objection basis, without presentation or discussion, in accordance with decision 2001/11. They were: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cambodia,

China, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States region, Georgia, Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Pakistan, Serbia, Swaziland and Turkey. The Executive Board also approved the second one-year extension of the country programme for the Islamic Republic of Iran. In addition, the Board adopted decision 2010/30 on assistance to Myanmar.

UNOPS segment

IV. United Nations Office for Project Services

35. The Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) provided an overview of procurement activities of United Nations system organizations 2009 (DP/2010/38 and corrigendum 1).

36. Two delegations took the floor. They thanked UNOPS for the report and for efficiency improvements made in the procurement process. One delegation suggested an analysis on human resource and technology capability for procurement in developing countries for next year's report. They also urged for recommendations to create conditions for the United Nations to increase its procurement from transitional and developing economies. Another delegation underscored the need to focus on speed as a central concept of procurement success, noting that the aspect was not addressed in the report. Along those lines, the delegation also requested information on tools being used for feedback, such as "client opinion" surveys.

37. The Executive Director welcomed the comments and reiterated UNOPS commitment to deepen the capacity of developing countries for United Nations procurement opportunities. He reaffirmed speed and timeliness as pillars of procurement, and as a potential topic for the report next year. In that regard, he confirmed that UNOPS worked to ensure as short a delivery time as possible, noting best practices were in place in major crisis situations such as in Haiti and Pakistan. In closing, he elaborated on UNOPS use of immediate and annual "client opinion" surveys on the quality and quantity of services to help identify areas for improvement.

38. The Executive Board adopted decision 2010/31 on the annual statistical report on the procurement activities of United Nations system organizations, 2009.

Joint segment

V. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

39. On behalf of the organizations, the Chief, Budget Section, UNFPA, introduced the Joint report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF on the road map to an integrated budget: cost classification and results-based budgeting (DP-FPA/2010/1-E/ICEF/2010/AB/L.10).

40. Delegations appreciated the ongoing collaboration amongst the agencies and the efforts toward a 2014 integrated budget. They emphasized the need to integrate all resource sources as well as build in measures to assess operational efficiencies and comparability. They requested clarification on why agencies assigned similar functions to different cost classifications in the annex of the report and asked for the

rationale behind the differences. They stated that General Assembly-mandated activities, such as security, International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), administration of justice and human resource contractual reform should be considered as management costs. To this end, they proposed adopting two subcomponents under the management classification — recurring costs and one-time (non-recurring) costs — and suggested that those costs that were not under management control be simply identified.

41. Delegations asked for more focus on results. They were concerned that the proposed 2012-2013 interim budget was too selective in its approach to results-based budgeting. They voiced several areas for consideration, inter alia: a budget format that allowed for comparison with previous budgets; a change in the financial statement format to reflect the new budget classifications; the role of management results in the integrated budget; and a 2014 integrated budget that linked to the development outcomes of the next strategic plans of the respective organizations. Delegations requested a mock-up budget, in the coming weeks, to inform discussions. Two delegations asked that investment costs be made distinct from ongoing costs in the mock-up budget.

42. Some delegations felt that a comprehensive graph incorporating the new cost classifications would be useful for the 2012-2013 budget. They stated that it was unclear how the agencies intended to establish results-based budgeting, and suggested creating a road map with specifics, including challenges and/or restrictions.

43. The Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director, Bureau of Management, UNDP, thanked delegations for their observations and support to achieve a harmonized budget. He emphasized the different business models of the three agencies, including the differing staff roles, cost locations and arrangements with implementing partners. He also confirmed the need for separation of recurring and non-recurring costs, and UNDP commitment to more clearly show the link between budget and management results. He noted UNDP work on the format of financial statements alongside the unfolding process of results-based budgeting and cost classification. In closing, he committed to using previous UNDP budget figures in the preparation of the mock-up harmonized budget.

44. The Director, Division for Management Services, UNFPA, thanked delegations for their support and guidance and noted that the three organizations were on track on the road to an integrated budget. Referring to UNFPA, he reiterated that procurement was linked to programme and was driven by programmatic results. Thus, for UNFPA, procurement came under the category of "development effectiveness". He assured the Executive Board that overall the Fund would link the entire gamut of resources in the strategic plan to results. Responding to a query, he noted that there would be implications regarding cost recovery and UNFPA would revert to the Board on this at a later stage. Regarding the mock-up budget, he observed that the model would show one-time (non-recurring) costs and recurrent costs separately to enable a meaningful and transparent comparison. He noted that the financial statements would be driven by IPSAS which required a comparison of budget expenditures with actual expenditures.

45. The Executive Board adopted decision 2010/32: Joint report of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF on the road map to an integrated budget: cost classification and results-based budgeting.

VI. Follow-up to UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board meeting

46. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Development Policy, and the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme), jointly introduced the report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (DP/2010/39-DP/FPA/2010/26).

47. Delegations commended UNDP and UNFPA on the follow-up to the second evaluation of UNAIDS. They requested that future reports provide a stronger focus on the results of UNDP and UNFPA engagement in HIV and AIDS activities. Delegations asked that an annex in standard format be attached to the Coordinating Committee report to the Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) for each co-sponsor, showing how they contribute to UNAIDS results. They also asked for better alignment of indicators among UNAIDS and the co-sponsor agencies, and for consistency between UNAIDS global level results frameworks and UNDP and UNFPA strategic plans and results frameworks. For improved transparency and accountability, a number of delegations stressed the need to increase consultations with donors and participating organizations in the development of the new UNAIDS strategic plan.

48. Delegations asked UNDP and UNFPA to improve clarity on the division of labour in the new UNAIDS guidelines, including who served as the lead agency for operational purposes, and urged coherence of the guidelines with the strategic focus and results frameworks of the organizations. In addition, follow-up was requested on the joint letter of the Executive Director of UNAIDS and the Chair of the United Nations Development Group sent to resident coordinators on the implementation of the UNAIDS results framework for 2011. Delegations welcomed efforts to renew partnerships with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the United States Global Health Initiative, for effective and efficient delivery of results. Regarding prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), some delegations asked about UNFPA collaboration with WHO and UNICEF at country level. Commending the expansion of male and female condom programming to 71 countries, they called for more ambitious targets for 2011 and urged adapting HIV prevention to local conditions.

49. Delegations urged the full engagement of co-sponsors in implementing the PCB decisions and noted that the new Unified Budget and Accountability Framework should measure the results of the entire budget, and that core allocations of the joint programme be made on the basis of epidemic priorities and performance of co-sponsors, and the funds that individual co-sponsors raise at the global and regional levels. Several delegations encouraged scaled-up efforts to address gender inequality and violence against women, as they were major drivers of the HIV epidemic. They commended UNFPA work on integrating HIV into sexual and reproductive health services to obtain wider coverage and greater impact, and appreciated UNDP and UNFPA efforts to improve government provision of those services. Delegations called on UNDP and UNFPA, with UNICEF, to work together towards the new vision for UNAIDS: Zero discrimination. Zero new HIV infections. Zero AIDS-related deaths.

50. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Development Policy, thanked delegations for their comments. He reaffirmed the importance of consistency across results frameworks, and highlighted actions under way in aligning and clarifying the role of each agency. He reassured that UNDP continued to draw upon lessons learned in the evaluation, both for improved alignment of activities as well as for future reporting back.

51. The UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme) thanked the delegations for their constructive comments and guidance. She concurred that there should be consistency amongst the strategic plans of UNFPA, UNDP and UNAIDS to effectively deliver a joint and integrated HIV response. She stated that the upcoming midterm review of the strategic plans and the development of the UNAIDS strategic plan, 2011-2015, provided an opportune time to develop plans that would strengthen the HIV response and accelerate universal access. Regarding PMTCT, she emphasized that UNFPA did not work in isolation but in close partnership with WHO and UNICEF bringing in its own comparative advantage, including focusing on primary prevention and ensuring that women with HIV had access to contraceptives to prevent pregnancy when they wished to do so and to necessary reproductive health services. She assured the delegations that UNFPA promoted a comprehensive approach to HIV prevention, including age-appropriate sexuality education and the availability of contraceptives, including male and female condoms, testing and counselling. Regarding the division of labour, she concurred with the need for greater clarity and noted that the division of labour would be based on the recommendations of the Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations and the comparative advantage of each co-sponsor. Finally, she introduced the new chief of the Fund's HIV/AIDS Branch, who had recently joined UNFPA from his previous post in UNAIDS.

52. The Director, HIV/AIDS Practice, UNDP, gave an overview of follow-up steps to the letter from the UNDP Administrator and the UNAIDS Executive Director on the outcome framework that was sent to resident coordinators. He reaffirmed coordination of HIV activities was well under way and being considered within planning instruments such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. In addition, he underscored due attention to ensure that the division of labour among agencies did not undermine the Delivering as One mechanism at the country level.

53. The Director, Technical Division, UNFPA, thanked the delegations for their comments regarding comprehensive condom programming and noted that it was important to focus on the priority countries in order to have greater impact. He underscored the joint efforts to address PMTCT. Regarding the issue of division of labour, he emphasized the need to clarify the roles of both partner and lead agencies, noting that partner agencies need to deliver and lead agencies need to coordinate.

54. The President welcomed the new chief of the UNFPA HIV/AIDS Branch. The Executive Board took note of the joint report (DP/2010/39-DP/FPA/2010/26).

UNFPA segment

Statement by the Executive Director

55. In her seminal final statement to the Executive Board (available on the website at http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/exbrd/pid/6783), the Executive Director spoke frankly about the successes, shortcomings and challenges that remained for UNFPA in ensuring accountability and driving forward the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). She recalled the three challenges she had highlighted in February 2001 when she had first addressed the Executive Board on becoming the UNFPA Executive Director, namely: ensuring a financially stable UNFPA; strengthening its institutional capacity; and addressing the social cultural context of programme development and delivery. She elaborated on how during the past ten years she and her UNFPA colleagues had taken the three priorities forward and responded to new demands associated with United Nations reform, aid effectiveness and accountability, and registered significant achievements. She highlighted the remaining challenges and opportunities for UNFPA and the ICPD Programme of Action in moving towards 2015 and beyond.

56. Noting that total resources committed to UNFPA had risen by 75 per cent in constant dollars since the time she took office in 2001, she thanked all Member States for their contributions and drew attention to the continuing challenge of resource mobilization and the decline in funding for family planning. She elaborated on delivering of results and strengthening of the Fund's institutional capacity and field focus. She noted that UNFPA was recognized as a leader in human resource management and the Fund's reorganization was on track. She announced that the host country agreements had been signed with Egypt and Turkey for the UNFPA regional offices in Cairo and Istanbul, respectively. She underscored that accountability was "the priority above all priorities" and elaborated on the steps taken to ensure that funds entrusted to UNFPA were wisely spent. She emphasized that UNFPA had zero tolerance for fraud and was strongly focused on follow-up to audit recommendations.

57. The Executive Director highlighted that bringing universal principles and cultural values closer together was a matter of personal conviction and an organizational priority. Lasting change could not come from outside but must come from within: UNFPA had played a critical role in highlighting the power of culture to change social norms and gender dynamics for equality between men and women by engaging communities and local leaders. She elaborated on concrete achievements of UNFPA in advancing the ICPD agenda during the past decade, including the contribution to the increase in skilled birth attendance and contraceptive prevalence; and the progress towards universal access to reproductive health, HIV prevention, enhanced reproductive health commodity security, data collection and analysis, and addressing the needs of young people and highlighting their key role in advancing the ICPD agenda. She drew attention to the work of UNFPA in humanitarian settings, including support to Pakistan in the wake of the recent unprecedented floods.

58. Referring to the guidance provided in General Assembly resolution 62/208, she emphasized that national ownership and leadership were fundamental to the approach of UNFPA. She underscored the Fund's commitment to national execution and also pointed out the challenges in terms of the capacity of the Fund's partners and the impact on accountability. She regretted that the United Nations Board of

Auditors had issued a qualification with respect to national execution expenditure in the UNFPA biennial financial statement for 2008-2009. The Executive Director drew attention to the issue of attribution and contribution and underscored that it was central to any further dialogue on accountability, especially as it related to ownership. She stressed that the emerging accountability issue of attribution and contribution deserved the utmost and immediate attention of Member States. Noting the increasing demands placed on staff, she hoped that beginning from next year the Executive Board would require that any decision adopted should be accompanied by a clear agreement by the Board on its financial implications and the provision of resources for it.

59. The Executive Director spoke about the upcoming midterm review (MTR) of the UNFPA strategic plan and the opportunities to simplify, harmonize and deliver better on results. She elaborated on the full support UNFPA had given to Delivering as One. She welcomed the new gender entity, UN Women, as the voice of all women and looked forward to working closely with the entity in advancing common goals for women's empowerment and gender equality. In closing, she emphasized the valuable partnerships that UNFPA had forged, expanded and deepened. She stated that "UNFPA could not have achieved what we have during the past decade without the support of the Executive Board and our wide circle of friends and supporters". She thanked the Executive Board, other development partners, sister agencies and UNFPA staff, noting that leading UNFPA had been "an incredible journey". She underscored the need for champions to advance the ICPD agenda and stressed that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) could not be achieved unless greater attention was paid to population issues. She urged the Member States to take this message forward to the MDG Summit.

60. Numerous delegations commended the tremendous strides made by UNFPA under the Executive Director's stewardship in the critical areas of population and development, reproductive health and rights, and gender equality and women's empowerment. They praised the Executive Director for ably guiding UNFPA during the past close to ten years and expressed appreciation and gratitude for her commitment and stellar leadership in steering the work of UNFPA. One delegation noted that her tenure was characterized by modesty and professionalism and that the overwhelming support expressed by delegations demonstrated "an absolute satisfaction of Member States" with the Executive Director's performance. The delegation added that the Executive Director's focus on culture and universal principles and values recognized by all cultures and religions had been the key to her outstanding achievements.

61. Expressing high appreciation for the Executive Director's leadership, one delegation stated that the Executive Director had been a strong and reliable partner in organizing the Fourth Tokyo International Conference for African Development and at the Group of Eight (G8) Summit in Japan in 2008. Another delegation commended the extraordinary contribution of the Executive Director to the reproductive and maternal health agenda and to strongly positioning UNFPA both financially and in its standing within the multilateral system.

62. Delegations noted the need for urgent action to achieve MDG 5 and encouraged UNFPA to play its part in the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health that would be launched at the MDG Summit on 22 September 2010. Delegations commended the work of the UNFPA global

programme for reproductive health commodity security, particularly the support to country-led approaches to increase the availability of contraceptives and other essential supplies. Delegations welcomed the recent establishment of UN Women and noted that UNFPA must continue to advance gender equality and women's empowerment and also work effectively with the new entity. While recognizing the important role that UNFPA played in emergency reproductive and maternal health care, one delegation encouraged UNFPA to continue to work within the priorities of humanitarian clusters and to focus on its core mandate rather than seeking to become a significant humanitarian actor. Another delegation strongly supported UNFPA efforts to improve access to reproductive health in crisis settings.

63. One delegation underlined the importance of strengthened audit coverage and the timely submission of evaluations and national execution audit reports. The delegation underscored the importance of strengthening internal financial controls, noting that it was critical for donors to have confidence that resources were spent wisely. The delegation encouraged other Executive Board members to join in increasing resources for staff training and improved technology to help prevent fraud.

64. Delegations focused on the interrelatedness of the ICPD goals and the MDGs and recognized that the MDGs could not be achieved unless adequate attention was focused on population dynamics and reproductive health. The Fund's commitment to addressing HIV and AIDS and the unmet need for family planning; promoting South-South cooperation; and strengthening data collection and analysis was commended. The representatives of WHO and Partners in Population and Development thanked the Executive Director for the strong partnership and cooperation with their respective organizations.

65. Numerous delegations expressed sympathy and condolences to the Government and the people of Pakistan for the untold suffering and loss caused by the devastating floods. Some delegations announced the support they were providing to Pakistan and also welcomed the current work of UNFPA to improve health, particularly maternal and child health in the devastated regions of Pakistan. The delegation of Pakistan conveyed its gratitude to the international community and the international organizations for their help in the wake of the unprecedented floods. The delegation noted that the scale and magnitude of the disaster was of a level that neither a single government nor the international community had dealt with in recent history. The delegation looked forward to continued support from the international community and the United Nations system in early relief, recovery and rehabilitation efforts and in the long-term reconstruction phase. The delegation appreciated its long-standing partnership with UNFPA as well as the Fund's support and the Executive Director's sagacious leadership.

66. The Executive Director expressed her thanks and deep appreciation to the Executive Board for the kind words and tribute to her leadership and stewardship of UNFPA. She emphasized that UNFPA had an outstanding staff and their hard work and dedication had been fundamental to the success achieved by UNFPA during her tenure as Executive Director. She thanked the Executive Board for the excellent advice, guidance and support it had provided to her personally as well as to UNFPA. She reiterated the Fund's firm commitment to effective and efficient management and assured the Board that UNFPA would continue to be a trusted organization. She also reassured the Board that UNFPA spent its funds wisely and was committed to giving value for money. She underscored the importance of the MDG Summit and

the G8 Summit to advance the ICPD agenda. She appreciated the opportunity UNFPA had to work with the G8 Summit and conveyed special thanks to France in that regard.

67. The Executive Director reiterated that UNFPA would collaborate with UN Women and emphasized that this had been the Fund's commitment from the inception of the new gender entity. She noted that the division of labour would be looked into once the entity was established. Regarding the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, she underscored that UNFPA had been collaborating on it. She elaborated on the work of the Health Four (H4) Plus and the attention focused on addressing maternal mortality and reproductive health issues in the 26 high-burden countries. Regarding the Fund's humanitarian response, she assured the Executive Board that UNFPA was very vigilant about being focused, particularly given its limited resources. She appreciated the attendance of WHO and noted that WHO was the Fund's technical reference point and UNFPA valued the close partnership. She concluded by thanking all the delegations for their support.

VII. Evaluation

68. The Chief, Humanitarian Response Branch (HRB), introduced the Fund's response to the findings of the thematic evaluation of UNFPA humanitarian response. Prior to the introduction a short video entitled *UNFPA Haiti August 2010* was shown.

69. Delegations underscored that access to reproductive health services and commodities was critical in conflict and natural disaster situations and noted that too often sexual and reproductive health (SRH) was overlooked during emergencies and natural disasters. It was stated that UNFPA efforts to promote the health of women and children were an essential aspect of multilateral humanitarian response. A number of delegations noted that UNFPA had significantly increased its humanitarian profile and influence since 2006 and had also become an active and well-respected member in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, successfully bringing gender and reproductive health and rights issues in the inter-agency forums. They stated that UNFPA had a unique role to play in ensuring that women had access to the basic reproductive health services during emergencies and in the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and provision of support to the victims of such violence. UNFPA was commended for developing training tools for implementing the Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) to reduce reproductive health-related morbidity and mortality and for developing with its partners the 2009 manual *Adolescent sexual and reproductive health toolkit for humanitarian settings*.

70. Delegations supported the recommendation in the evaluation report that UNFPA should consolidate and better mainstream humanitarian assistance in its work and underscored the importance of developing a results framework on humanitarian assistance with well-defined targets and indicators. The importance of quality control, monitoring and evaluation was emphasized as being crucial for enhancing effectiveness. Delegations welcomed the suggestion regarding developing an evaluation plan for humanitarian action and the necessary monitoring tools. Some delegations emphasized the need for timely submission of management responses. They also requested an annual update on progress of the Fund's

humanitarian assistance strategy. Some delegations asked how the Executive Board would be associated in the development of the new humanitarian response strategy. One delegation emphasized that besides mainstreaming humanitarian response in the work of UNFPA there should also be further mainstreaming of sexual and reproductive health and rights in other United Nations agencies' humanitarian work and in national coordination mechanisms through the cluster approach.

71. Some delegations stated that UNFPA should play a support and coordination role in clusters rather than establish major emergency response capacity on the ground. They hoped that the gap in country offices not receiving the support expected from regional offices and headquarters was a temporary phase and would be addressed through the Fund's regionalization. They observed that the evaluation report had not been conclusive on the topic of the integration of humanitarian response in development programme activities and development and humanitarian activities could not always be clearly distinguished.

72. The need for UNFPA to build staff capacities, skills and competencies to ensure that the Fund could deliver on its mandate in all types of contexts was stressed. One delegation, noting that the evaluation had indicated that there was inadequate staff capacity on the ground, including staff at a senior level, requested UNFPA to strengthen staff training and suggested that more senior and experienced staff be deployed in the field in adequate numbers.

73. Some delegations noted that the global-level commitment to prevent gender-based violence coordination had not translated into effective country-level humanitarian work and they requested information about the case of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They also requested additional information about UNFPA collaboration with non-governmental partners in the area of humanitarian response. One delegation asked how the division of labour would be organized with the newly established UN Women to increase attention to the SRH needs of women in emergency situations.

74. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) thanked the Executive Board for its interest in the area of humanitarian response. She clarified that the management response to the evaluation had been posted internally on the Fund's Intranet since March 2010 and UNFPA would ensure regular posting on the external website. Concerning the issue of the capacity of UNFPA to deliver in the area of humanitarian response, she emphasized that the Fund focused on its areas of comparative advantage in terms of its mandate and did not seek to go beyond what it could deliver. She noted that the Board's feedback in that regard would be helpful. Regarding the issue of the seniority level of staff, she pointed out that at the country level UNFPA staff were at a lower level (in accordance with Board-approved posts) compared to staff of other United Nations organizations. She stated that UNFPA would welcome the Board's assistance in elevating the post levels of UNFPA staff so that they could be at par with those of other United Nations organizations. She concurred that every staff member needed to have minimal capacity on humanitarian response. She noted that UNFPA regional offices were developing strategies to better respond to humanitarian situations. She stated that there was immense potential to build capacity in the Africa region. She assured the Board that UNFPA intended to build its operational capacity to respond to humanitarian situations when they occurred. She concluded by welcoming the Board's engagement in the

development of the next humanitarian response strategy and stated that UNFPA would be pleased to provide annual briefings on how the strategy was moving.

75. The Director, Programme Division, noted that UNFPA would maintain the engagement with the Executive Board on the strategy, including through the midterm review of the strategic plan. He stated that UNFPA was undertaking rapid staff recruitment. He observed that the lessons learned from the experience in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia were being taken into account in developing the next generation humanitarian response strategy.

76. The Chief, HRB, thanked the delegations for their support and guidance and assured them that HRB worked closely with the Fund's Commodity Security Branch regarding reproductive health commodity security and was able to deploy commodities very quickly in humanitarian situations. As UNFPA was not large enough to have its own logistics system it would partner with the World Food Programme (WFP) and WFP, in turn, found it useful to partner with UNFPA regarding gender and reproductive health. For example, in Pakistan, UNFPA and WFP were partnering on nutrition for lactating mothers. She elaborated on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and noted that the complexity of the situation and security concerns had hampered the humanitarian work. She observed that UNFPA played a key role in building national capacity and community participation was central to key dimension of the Fund's work in post-conflict situations. Referring to the success achieved in Uganda resulting from the close partnership with the Government and other development actors, she noted the need to bring all partners closer together in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

77. Concerning the Fund's role in clusters, she clarified that UNFPA was not a cluster leader but was active in the health cluster where it led on reproductive health and worked closely with WHO. In the protection cluster, UNFPA and UNICEF co-led on prevention and response to gender-based violence. Furthermore, UNFPA played an important role regarding data in the early recovery cluster. For example, UNFPA was able to share data with OCHA and the World Bank in Haiti after much of the country's data were destroyed by the earthquake. She underscored that UNFPA was increasingly being recognized internationally for assisting with censuses and supporting data collection, analysis and dissemination. Regarding using surge capacity in humanitarian situations, she noted that UNFPA worked closely with other partners, including the Norwegian Refugee Council.

VIII. UNFPA country programmes and related matters

78. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) provided a general introduction of the six draft country programme documents (CPDs) that the Executive Board had before it for discussion, namely: Burkina Faso and Zambia from the Africa region; Somalia from the Arab States region; Indonesia and Maldives from the Asia and the Pacific region; and Uruguay from the Latin America and the Caribbean region. The UNFPA Regional Directors for Africa; Arab States; Asia and the Pacific; and Latin America and the Caribbean elaborated on the specific programmes from their respective regions.

79. Delegations appreciated that the programmes had been formulated under national leadership and were aligned with national development plans, priorities and strategies. UNFPA engagement in the areas of reproductive health, population

dynamics and gender was commended. Tangible efforts to increase the contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) and to reduce maternal mortality were noted. At the same time, it was underscored that in some countries increased efforts were needed to further reduce maternal mortality, increase CPR and address the unmet need for family planning. Delegations urged increased collaboration and information sharing with other development partners. They commended the focus on national capacity-building, including to promote the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and called for strengthening country office capacity. They underscored the importance of taking population variables into account in development policies. Some delegations called for the output indicators in some CPDs to be revised so that they would be more robust and measurable and better aligned with national indicators. Delegations expressed sympathy to Pakistan for the suffering and loss caused by the unprecedented floods.

80. The delegations of Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Somalia and Uruguay commended the close collaboration with UNFPA in the formulation of their respective country programmes. They praised the UNFPA Executive Director for her outstanding leadership and thanked her for the support UNFPA provided to their countries. Furthermore, they commended the transparency, flexibility and professionalism of UNFPA staff.

81. The Deputy Executive Director (Programme) and the Directors of the regional offices thanked the delegations for their comments and guidance and reaffirmed that UNFPA worked in close partnership with Governments and other development partners, including civil society. They assured the Executive Board that UNFPA had taken note of the comments on specific CPDs and would convey them to the concerned countries to take into account in finalizing the programmes. It was noted that the indicators were informed by the national plans with which the CPDs were aligned. Nevertheless, UNFPA would seek to make the indicators more robust. The continuing commitment and support of UNFPA to Delivering as One was underscored.

82. In accordance with Executive Board decision 2006/36, the Executive Board approved on a no-objection basis, without discussion or presentation, the following 10 country programmes that had been discussed earlier at the Board's annual session 2010: from the Africa region — Swaziland; from the Arab States region — Iraq and the Occupied Palestinian Territory; from the Asia and the Pacific region — Cambodia, China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; and from the Eastern Europe and Central Asia regions — Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia and Turkey. In addition, in accordance with decision 2006/36, the Executive Board took note of the draft CPDs for Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Maldives, Somalia, Uruguay and Zambia, and the comments thereon, which would be conveyed to the concerned countries to take into account in finalizing the programmes.

IX. Other matters

Farewell ceremony for the UNFPA Executive Director

83. The Executive Board held a farewell ceremony in honour of the UNFPA Executive Director who would be completing her tenure on 31 December 2010. In his statement, the President of the Executive Board spoke about the Executive Director's vision, commitment and leadership and what she had accomplished as Executive Director of UNFPA, as well as the multifaceted legacy she would leave

behind. He referred to her emphasis on taking cultural and religious values into account in advancing sustainable development and noted her many contributions, including to resource mobilization; United Nations reform; the empowerment of women; assisting national governments in the areas of population, and maternal and child health. He concluded by noting that she had touched the lives of many people around the world in a meaningful way through her tireless efforts at UNFPA and that her legacy would live on.

84. Statements were also made by the UNDP Administrator; the Executive Board Vice-President, African States, speaking on behalf of the African States; the Executive Board Vice-President, Asian and Pacific States, speaking on behalf of the Asian and Pacific States; the delegation of Mexico, speaking on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States; the Executive Board Vice-President, Western European and other States, speaking on behalf of the Western European and other States; the Executive Board Vice-President, Eastern European States, speaking on behalf of the Eastern European States; the delegation of Yemen, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; the delegation of Saudi Arabia; the delegation of Kenya; the delegation of Turkey; the delegation of Luxembourg; the delegation of China; and the delegation of the League of Arab States. (The available statements may be accessed from http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/about/ed/pid/6707).

85. Delegations underscored the Executive Director's passion for her work and her deep commitment and dedication to advancing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), particularly with regard to promoting reproductive health, gender equality and women's empowerment. They noted that her visionary leadership had enhanced the credibility of UNFPA. The African States thanked her for all she had done for the continent and women of Africa. Her strong commitment to United Nations reform and to Delivering as One and her high standing within the United Nations system was praised. Delegations commended her professionalism, managerial skills and her outstanding leadership at the helm of UNFPA. They also noted her readiness and willingness to engage with the Executive Board in an open and transparent manner.

86. The Executive Director's caring nature, her sensitivity to cultural values, her progressive approach to development, coupled with her frankness and directness were highly commended by delegations. Equally, delegations commended her tenacity and her courage in the fight against poverty. Delegations praised her advancement of the ICPD agenda and her strong commitment to national ownership and leadership in implementing that agenda. They stated that the Executive Director would be greatly missed but her legacy to UNFPA and to the world of development would endure.

87. The Executive Director thanked the Executive Board members for the commemorative event and farewell ceremony. She expressed her deep appreciation to all delegations and noted that she had been touched by their kind words. She stated that when others asked her about her successful engagement with the Executive Board she always responded that it was based on three things: honesty, transparency and humility. She thanked the Executive Board for its excellent support and guidance throughout her tenure at UNFPA. She also conveyed her special thanks to the current United Nations Secretary-General, his predecessor and her own predecessor at UNFPA. She conveyed her thanks to all UNFPA partners, governmental, non-governmental and in the United Nations system. She concluded

by thanking her two Deputy Executive Directors and all the staff of UNFPA, noting that without their support her success and the success of UNFPA could not have been achieved. Finally, she thanked her husband, who was present in the conference room, for his wonderful support which had been pivotal to her own accomplishments.

88. The Executive Board adopted decision 2010/28: Expression of appreciation to Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, 2001-2010.

Informal briefings and side events

89. The following informal briefings and side events took place:

(a) The Chief, Reproductive Health Branch, UNFPA, provided a briefing on the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health.

(b) A briefing was held on UNFPA support to the humanitarian response to the floods in Pakistan, chaired by the UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme). Presentations were made by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, and the UNFPA Regional Director, Asia and the Pacific Regional Office. A short video was shown on *UNFPA in Pakistan: Reaching those most in need in the flood-affected districts*.

(c) The UNDP Associate Administrator introduced the item on realignment of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Early Recovery. The Director, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, spoke about how UNDP planned to improve the way it operated in emergency settings based on recommendations from the recent strategic review.

(d) A briefing was provided on the Internet Initiative, chaired by the Director of Communications with a presentation by the Director of Web and Online Media.

(e) The Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) Office GATEWAY, a new online portal that provides real time information was officially launched on 2 September 2010 during the Executive Board meeting. The Associate Administrator chaired and introduced the event and presentations were made by the Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau of Management, and the MDTF Office Executive Coordinator.

(f) The UNDP Associate Administrator introduced a briefing on the UNDP response to the floods in Pakistan. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, and the UNDP Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery made presentations.